

Medal, the American Theater Medal, the European Theater Medal, the Asiatic Pacific Medal, the Philippine Liberation Medal, and the Victory Medal.

Three years after being discharged, he married Lela Baker of Hazard, and for 20 years he lived and cut hair in his hometown.

In 1965, Young, his wife, Lela, and two children, David and Judy, moved to the Sublimity area of Laurel County. In 1995, his wife passed away, and today Young's family includes son David and wife, Lillie; daughter, Judy Smith and husband, G.J.; three grandchildren, David Ryan Young, Cameron Justin Smith, and Trey Jordan Smith; and one great-grandson, David Rylan Young.

Young retired from the swivel chair and scissors several years ago, but his hands do not remain idle he makes wood-crafted items and plays several musical instruments. This talent got him an appearance in 1947 on the first official broadcast of the Hazard radio station.

Today, not in good health, like most World War II veterans, Young spends his days reminiscing and visiting with family and friends who stop by Laurel Heights Home for the Elderly.

#### TRIBUTE TO MASTER SERGEANT MICAH B. MASON AND PRIVATE FIRST CLASS MICAH J. MASON

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to a father and son who are bravely serving in our Armed Forces simultaneously: MSG Micah B. Mason and his son, PFC Micah J. Mason, both of London, KY. Master Sergeant Mason has served in the National Guard for 28 years. He now has had the opportunity to see his son, Private First Class Mason, learn, work, and grow in the same organization that the elder Mason began his career in almost three decades ago.

Not only are the Mason men both involved in the same service branch, they also served on the same mission, in the same truck. Master Sergeant Mason was excited to be given the opportunity to work alongside his son in "real world" missions. He feels that he is lucky to be able to experience a work environment firsthand with his son in a way very few parents get the chance to do.

Private First Class Mason is excited to be able to go on missions with his father. The 22-year-old didn't know that his father was going to be on the same truck as him until the day they deployed. He is overjoyed to show his father the proficiency at which he does his job on a day-to-day basis.

There is obviously a certain level of concern when deploying on a mission solo, and that level increases when there are not one but two members of the same family on a single mission. Nonetheless, the two have expressed that at the end of the day, they are glad they have each other for support.

The resiliency and strength shown by these two individuals in such a tolling work environment is truly remarkable. With men like the Masons serving in our Armed Forces, we have little reason to doubt our military's abilities. These men are true American heroes who have given much so that we may

sleep soundly at night and know that our freedoms and liberties will always be protected.

Master Sergeant Mason and his son Private First Class Mason deserve a great deal of recognition, just as all those in military service do, for what they have done to protect the citizens of their community, the great State of Kentucky, and our great country of the United States of America.

Mr. President, I would like to ask my colleagues in the Senate to join me in recognizing the hard work, dedication, and sacrifice of MSG Micah B. Mason and his son, PFC Micah J. Mason.

There was recently an article printed in Whitley County, Kentucky's local newspaper, The Times-Tribune, which highlighted the outstanding service of this father and son duo who have so graciously contributed to our Nation's defense throughout the years. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that said article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD as follows:

[From the Times-Tribune, Oct. 12, 2011]

#### FATHER AND SON TEAM UP TO GO OUTSIDE THE WIRE

(By Corbin, special to the Times-Tribune)

As soldiers complete their pre-mission checks and get everything loaded for transport, it would seem the job of escorting supply trucks from Joint Base Balad to Contingency Operating Site Mosul is just another mission for the soldiers of Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 149th Infantry Regiment, 77th Sustainment Brigade, 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command.

However, a rare occasion has been marked, not only in the 149th Infantry Regiment, but in the military as a whole. A father and son are going out together on not only the same mission, but in the same truck.

"It's a unique experience for sure to actually be doing real-world missions with your son as a gunner and seeing him in that atmosphere," said Master Sgt. Micah B. Mason, an assistant operations noncommissioned officer with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 149 Inf. Regt., a native of London. "It's something very few parents get to do. I'm excited to actually go on a mission and experience it first-hand with my son."

Master Sgt. Mason, 46, who served in the Guard for over 28 years, usually watches convoy escort missions unfold as a shift battle NCO in charge of the 149th Inf. Regt.'s tactical operations center. However, the unit sent him on this mission as part of their ongoing efforts to ensure everyone in the tactical operations center is able to see what goes on first-hand during the missions they monitor on a daily basis.

"I have a lot of concerns . . . if something does happen (on the mission)," said Master Sgt. Mason. "I'm glad I'm there with him, though."

Master Sgt. Mason said he's only told two people back home about him and his son doing this mission together and that "they're just in awe."

"I didn't know he was going, 'til I saw him sitting out by the trucks," said 22-year-old Pfc. Micah J. Mason, a gunner with Delta Company, 1/149th Inf. Regt., also a native of London. "It just makes me happy to actually do something with him, to let him see what I do on a day-to-day basis."

Pfc. Mason said he had been waiting to be able to go on a mission with his father, as not many people can say that they have done that. After the mission, Master Sgt. Mason had only good things to say.

"Things went very smooth," he said. "The convoy escort team knew their jobs very well and were professional every step of the way. Being out with my son was the chance of a lifetime. It was very strange to see him doing his job, being in control. But in the same sense, I was very proud."

#### TRIBUTE TO FIRST CLASS SEAMAN JAMES FRANCIS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to an exceptional veteran of the United States Navy who wore the uniform during World War II, First Class Seaman James Francis of Laurel County, KY.

James was born in Monroe County, KY, in 1924. His family lived on a farm where they raised just about everything they ate. The family moved to Indiana in 1937 when James' father got a job working for the railroad. James was drafted into the Navy in 1941, on his 19th birthday.

Although James never entered combat, he was an intricate part of the war effort in the South Pacific. He was stationed on a Merchant Marine ship that delivered ammunition to the soldiers who were on the front lines. After his time aboard ship, James spent 18 months in Hong Kong cutting hair at a G.I. barber shop. He was discharged in May 1946.

Mr. James Francis is most assuredly deserving of commemoration for the sacrifices he made for each one of us and for our great Nation, as well as his years of service to the betterment of his community and to the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

There was recently a feature article published in the Sentinel Echo: Silver Edition magazine in November 2011, highlighting the upstanding legacy of Mr. James Francis and his commendable dedication to our Nation's Armed Forces.

Mr. President, it is my wish that my colleagues in the United States Senate join me in honoring the loyalty and bravery shown by Kentucky's own James Francis. And I ask unanimous consent that said article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to appear in the RECORD as follows:

[From the Sentinel Echo, Nov. 2011]

#### NAVY SUPPLIER

(By Carol Mills)

First Class Seaman James Francis was a Merchant Marine during World War II.

In time of war, the Merchant Marine is an auxiliary to the Navy and delivers troops and supplies for the military.

Francis went to Great Lakes Boot Camp in Illinois, near North Chicago, and gunnery school in Gulf Port, Miss., and then went to California and caught a ship.

"We were shipped out," Francis said. "I went to the Philippines the first trip, came back to the States, and then went to Australia and the South Pacific for six months

and then came back again. I served on a Merchant Marine ship. We didn't do any fighting. We took a load of ammunition to the Philippines, 150 tons, unloaded it, and the Japanese blew it up that night. We took supplies to other countries, but I can't remember. It's been 65 years since I got out. I stayed in Hong Kong, China, cutting hair for 18 months in a G.I. barber shop before I came home. I didn't have enough points to get out (Navy)." Navy training counts for retirement points, so Francis decided to learn how to cut hair.

Besides ammunition, Francis also delivered airplane fuel to the Philippines.

Francis was discharged in May 1946. His experience in the Navy was all good.

"There was no bad. I won't take nothing for what I seen went on, but I wouldn't go do it again."

Francis, 86, was born in Monroe County in 1924 to Herman and Maye Francis. His father had a farm between Tomkinsville and Mud Lick.

"We raised about everything we ate," Francis said.

The family moved to Indiana in 1937, where his father got a job working for the L&N Railroad.

When Francis was 19, he was drafted into the U.S. Navy on Dec. 2, 1941, on his birthday. Two or three years after he was discharged, he married Irene Barton when he was 27 or 28.

"She was a Kentucky woman. I met her in Indiana," Francis said. "We moved back down here in 1966. She was born and raised in Corbin. When she died, I married Lola Boggs. I've been a widower for about two years now. When she (Lola) died, I moved to Carnaby Square Apartments. I'm too old to get married again."

#### TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM A. SANTOR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I stand before you today to pay tribute to a man who has been successful in serving his country, in his career, and in building longlasting relationships with family and friends, all because he has learned to incorporate his passion into all that he does: Mr. William "Bill" A. Santor of Lexington, KY.

Bill Santor lives on the Griffin Gate golf course with his wife of 72 years, Nettie. He tries to play golf at least twice a week, sometimes more. Mr. Santor turned 100 years old on Easter Sunday of this year. Despite his age, he is a competitor through and through; he recently accumulated an astonishing score of 42 strokes after playing 9 holes.

Mr. Santor truly loves the sport of golf, so much, in fact, that he passed his knowledge of the game down to both of his children as they were growing up. Now they, too, have fit the game into their livelihoods in one way or another. His son, Tom, played golf in college at the University of Kentucky, while his daughter, Patty Driapsa, instructs professional golfers at the Club Pelican Bay in Naples, FL. Both children are not only amazed that their father is still able to play the game but are also awestruck by how good he is. Despite his age, after a long lifetime of practice, he still has exceptional skill.

Bill was first exposed to the game when he began caddying in Youngs-

town, OH, at age 12. The pay he received was usually 25 cents for working an entire 18-hole game. He picked up a few spare clubs here and there and began playing himself at the age of 15. Bill quickly found that he was a natural-born golfer, and he began playing in and winning local tournaments.

When World War II began Bill enlisted, but he never ceased to play golf. He was stationed at Fort Knox, close to the Lindsey Golf Course, where Bill would eventually play against Byron Nelson, winner of two Masters, a U.S. Open, and a PGA, in the Kentucky Open in 1943. Although Bill didn't win the tournament that year, just being able to participate is one of Bill's fondest memories to this day.

Not long after the Open, Bill was deployed to Europe, but again he found himself in close proximity with the game he loved so dearly. Bill worked maintaining a golf course on the Czechoslovakia-Germany border. Military officers would come to the course when they were on leave to play, relax, and enjoy their time off. One of the visitors was Bob Hope, with whom Bill had the opportunity to play nine holes. All these years later, Bill will be the first to tell you he won that game.

When Bill returned home after the war, golf was a big part of his family and work life. His wife Nettie remembers most of their family vacations were to golf destinations, where the whole family would play. Bill worked for a business equipment company for almost 50 years and he spent a lot of time with clients discussing business over a game of golf. But Bill's competitive nature would never allow him to let a client win.

To this day Bill tries to fit a round of golf into his schedule every chance he gets, which is something he has done his whole entire life. Bill can drive a golf ball 175 yards, and he has a running count of 10 holes-in-one to this day. Bill's children both agree that golf is what keeps their father going; it is something that he has built his life around. Golf has opened many doors for Bill throughout his life, and for that he is grateful.

It is my wish at this time that my colleagues in the Senate join me in celebrating the successful and still very active life of Mr. William "Bill" A. Santor.

Mr. President, there was recently an article published in the Lexington newspaper the Herald-Leader. The article featured the legacy of Mr. Bill Santor and the love and passion he has for his country, his State, his family, and the game of golf. I ask unanimous consent that said article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD as follows:

[From the Lexington Herald-Leader, Apr. 1, 2012]

#### AT ALMOST 100, BILL SANTOR LOOKS BACK ON HIS COLORFUL LIFE IN GOLF

(By Mike Fields)

To Mark Twain, golf was a good walk spoiled, but to Bill Santor, who will mark his 100th birthday on Easter Sunday, golf has been and still is a wonderful life lived.

"It's given me so much," Santor said. "Great experiences and great memories."

Like when he competed against Byron Nelson in the Kentucky Open. Or when he played nine holes with Bob Hope during World War II. Or when he teed it up in the same tournament as Babe Ruth. Or when he made two holes-in-one in a two-week period at age 87.

In his prime, Santor was one of the best amateurs in Ohio. He passed the golf gene on to his children. His son, Tom, played at the University of Kentucky. His daughter, Patty, played at Bowling Green State and is now a teaching pro in Florida.

Bill Santor still plays golf a couple times a week at Griffin Gate, where he's lived since 1991 with his wife of 72 years, Nettie.

His legs are failing him, and so is his eyesight, but Santor is still capable of scoring well. Just last week, he carded a 42 for nine holes.

He has shot his age so many times that he laughs off the accomplishment as if it were a tap-in putt.

"It's crazy," his son Tom said when asked about his dad's knack for still hitting the sweet spot.

"He's a freak show."

Patty Driapsa, who works at the Club Pelican Bay in Naples, Fla., said she finds it "incredible" how solid her father still hits the ball. "He has a little trouble maneuvering in and out of the cart, but hey, at 100 years old, you'd expect to have a few challenges."

Bill Santor's introduction to golf came when he began caddying as a 12-year-old in Youngstown, Ohio. He earned 25 cents for 18 holes.

He got a few hand-me-down clubs and started playing when he was 15. A natural athlete, he quickly found his groove and was winning area tournaments within a few years.

He continued to caddy on occasion to earn entry-fee money for tournaments. One of his best gigs was looping for Ben Fairless, president of U.S. Steel.

"He'd give me \$30 for expense money," Santor said. "That was like \$300 then."

In 1935, Santor played in a tournament in Cleveland and the field included Babe Ruth, the most famous athlete on the planet at the time.

When World War II began, Santor enlisted in the Army and was stationed at Fort Knox. He was upset when he was told the post's golf course was mostly restricted to officers. But Santor's golf talent and gift of gab got him playing privileges.

He was second low amateur in the 1943 Kentucky Open, which was held on Fort Knox's Lindsey Course. Byron Nelson, who had already won four majors (two Masters, a U.S. Open, and a PGA), won that Kentucky Open.

When Santor was shipped overseas during the war, he still played some golf.

As a staff sergeant, he was part of a Third Army team that won a military golf competition in Paris in 1945. The spoils of victory included an engraved gold watch that he's worn for 65 years.

Part of Santor's time in Europe was spent running the golf course at a resort called Marienbad on the Czechoslovakia-Germany border. It was where troops on leave would go for rest and relaxation. And it was where Bob Hope visited during a USO trip.